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2030 Main Street			UBER, NATHAN C	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Application No. Applicant(s) 10/826,722 MCKNIGHT ET AL. Office Action Summary Examiner Art Unit NATHAN C. UBER 3622 -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS. WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2010. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1.3.10.21 and 23-25 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1,3,10,21 and 23-25 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are; a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abevance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S5/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date ______.

Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date.

6) Other:

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

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DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

- This action is in reply to the amendment filed on 14 January 2010.
- 2. Claims 1, 10 and 21 have been amended.
- Claims 19, 20 and 22 have been canceled.
- 4. Claims 1, 3, 10, 21 and 23-25 are currently pending and have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 6. The factual inquiries set forth in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:
 - Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
 - Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
 - Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
 - Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
- Claims 1, 3, 21 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garrett (US 6,473,738 B1) in view of Jacobi et al. (US 7,113,917 B2) and in view of Song (U.S. 6.865,546 B1).

Claim 1:

Garrett, as shown, discloses the following limitations:

establishing, by the computerized transaction system without requiring a
user's request, the giftee profile based on said determining if the
computerized transaction is associated with the user on behalf of the third

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party, wherein the giftee profile corresponds to the third party and is associated with a user profile corresponding to the user (see at least column 8, lines 48-56, profiles for the user and for the recipients are established; Examiner notes that the Garrett invention does not required the user to request a profile to be established, one is established automatically when a recipient is indicated for a particular purchase),

- aggregating, by the computerized transaction system, information associated with the transaction in the user profile corresponding to the user if the computerized transaction is determined to be associated with the user (see at least column 3, lines 52-53, "saving the selection list;" see also at least figure 6, purchase history log for user and each recipient),
- aggregating, by the computerized transaction system, the information associated with the transaction in the giftee profile corresponding to the third party if the computerized transaction is determined to be associated with the third party (see at least column 3, lines 52-53, "saving the selection list;" see also at least figure 6, purchase history log for user and each recipient),

Garrett gives the purchaser the opportunity to indicate at the beginning of the shopping transaction or at check-out whether the items purchased/selected are for the purchaser or for third parties. The Garrett invention requires the user/purchaser to interact with buttons in the online interface (i.e. prompts) in order to designate items for intended recipients. Garrett does not specifically disclose that the server can determine the intended recipient of an item without the user/purchaser using the online prompts to designate a recipient. However, Song, as shown, discloses a server that can distinguish intended recipients of an online purchase based on the "ship to" information:

determining, by the computerized transaction system without prompting the
user whether the computerized transaction is associated with the user or
whether the computerized transaction is associated with the user on behalf of
a third party (see at least column 5, lines 1-3 and 10-12, the system may

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infer that an item is being purchased as a gift by for example recognizing that the shipping address for the item is different from the billing address),

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the inference-determining feature of the Song invention with Garrett's online shopping tools because both inventions seek to assist users in making online purchases, the Song inference feature only requires input data (shipping and billing addresses) which the Garrett invention also requires, both inventions seek to compartmentalize purchase histories by recipient and since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

Garrett further does not specifically disclose the following additional limitations, but Jacobi, as shown, does:

- determining, by the computerized transaction system, an offer tailored to one
 or more of the user or to the third party based upon either the user profile
 corresponding to the user or the giftee profile corresponding to the third party
 (see at least column 6, lines 14-22, provides recommendations based on
 items in user's list),
- presenting, by the computerized transaction system, the offer to the user, wherein the offer consists of a special offer and a promotion (see at least column 4, lines 55-61, implementing a variety of recommendation services... generates "personal recommendations"; Examiner notes that "recommendations" plural in the reference indicates at least more than one recommendation; Examiner interprets the claim limitation to mean two offers of some kind; Examiner does not know of and Applicant's disclosure fails to teach any distinction between special offer, promotion or recommendation in the advertising art),

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the offer, if tailored for the third party, is based upon the giftee profile
corresponding to the third party and is not based upon the user profile
corresponding to the user (see at least column 6, lines 23-37, user
designates shopping carts for different people (self, children, etcetera) and
recommendations are made based on current shopping cart contents or past
shopping cart purchases/selections, but are specific to a particular
designated shopping cart),

- the offer, if tailored to the user, is based upon the user profile corresponding
 to the user and is not based upon the giftee profile corresponding to the third
 party (see at least column 6, lines 23-37, user designates shopping carts for
 different people (self, children, etcetera) and recommendations are made
 based on current shopping cart contents or past shopping cart
 purchases/selections, but are specific to a particular designated shopping
 cart),
- the determining of the offer is based upon a past purchase transactions and the presented offer is for a future purchase by the user (see at least column 6, line 33-37, uses items that were purchased as basis for offers),

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the capacity to differentiate between purchase histories and item selections for various parties within one user's account (the invention of Garrett) with the automated generation of product promotions/recommendations based on shopping cart content and previous purchases (the invention of Jacobi, also taught by Song) as well as with the inference determination feature of Song since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

Claim 3:

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The combination Garrett/Jacobi/Song discloses the limitations as shown in the rejections above. Further, Garrett, as shown, discloses the following limitations:

- determining if the giftee profile corresponding to the third party is already
 present (see at least column 6, line 42, the list of parties can be displayed),
- establishing the giftee profile corresponding to the third party if the giftee
 profile is not already present (see at least column 3, lines 46-47, generating...
 a list of names... the customer may associate items with),
- updating, by the computerized transaction system, the information associated with the transaction in the giftee profile corresponding to the third party if the giftee profile is already present in the profile (see at least column 3, lines 52-53, "saving the selection list;" see also at least figure 6, purchase history log for user and each recipient).

Claim 21:

Garrett, as shown, discloses the following limitations:

- establishing, by the computerized transaction system without requiring a
 user's request, the giftee profile based on said determining if the
 computerized transaction is associated with the user on behalf of the third
 party, wherein the giftee profile corresponds to the third party and is
 associated with a user profile corresponding to the user (see at least column
 8, lines 48-56, profiles for the user and for the recipients are established;
 Examiner notes that the Garrett invention does not require the user to
 request a profile to be established, one is established automatically when a
 recipient is indicated for a particular purchase),
- aggregating, by the computerized transaction system, information associated
 with the purchase transaction in the user profile corresponding to the user if
 the computerized purchase transaction is determined to be associated with
 the user (see at least column 3, lines 52-53, "saving the selection list;" see
 also at least figure 6, purchase history log for user and each recipient),

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 aggregating, by the computerized transaction system, the information associated with the purchase transaction in the giftee profile corresponding to the third party if the computerized purchase transaction is determined to be associated with the third party (see at least column 3, lines 52-53, "saving the selection list;" see also at least figure 6, purchase history log for user and each recipient),

Garrett gives the purchaser the opportunity to indicate at the beginning of the shopping transaction or at check-out whether the items purchased/selected are for the purchaser or for third parties. The Garrett invention requires the user/purchaser to interact with buttons in the online interface (i.e. prompts) in order to designate items for intended recipients. Garrett does not specifically disclose that the server can determine the intended recipient of an item without the user/purchaser using the online prompts to designate a recipient. However, Song, as shown, discloses a server that can distinguish intended recipients of an online purchase based on the "ship to" information:

determining, by the computerized transaction system without prompting the
user whether the computerized transaction is associated with the user or
whether the computerized transaction is associated with the user on behalf of
a third party (see at least column 5, lines 1-3 and 10-12, the system may
infer that an item is being purchased as a gift by for example recognizing that
the shipping address for the item is different from the billing address).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the inference-determining feature of the Song invention with Garrett's online shopping tools because both inventions seek to assist users in making online purchases, the Song inference feature only requires input data (shipping and billing addresses) which the Garrett invention also requires, both inventions seek to compartmentalize purchase histories by recipient and since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely

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would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

Garrett further does not specifically disclose the following additional limitations, but Jacobi, as shown, does:

- determining, by the computerized transaction system, an offer tailored to one
 or more of the user or to the third party based upon either the user profile
 corresponding to the user or the giftee profile corresponding to the third party
 (see at least column 6, lines 14-22 provides recommendations based on
 items in user's list),
- presenting, by the computerized transaction system, the offer to the user, wherein the offer consists of a special offer and a promotion (see at least column 4, lines 55-61, implementing a variety of recommendation services... generates "personal recommendations"; Examiner notes that "recommendations" plural in the reference indicates at least more than one recommendation; Examiner interprets the claim limitation to mean two offers of some kind; Examiner does not know of and Applicant's disclosure fails to teach any distinction between special offer, promotion or recommendation in the advertising art),
- the offer, if tailored for the third party, is based upon the giftee profile
 corresponding to the third party and is not based upon the user profile
 corresponding to the user (see at least column 6, lines 23-37, user
 designates shopping carts for different people (self, children, etcetera) and
 recommendations are made based on current shopping cart contents or past
 shopping cart purchases/selections, but are specific to a particular
 designated shopping cart).
- the offer, if tailored to the user, is based upon the user profile corresponding to the user and is not based upon the giftee profile corresponding to the third party (see at least column 6, lines 23-37, user designates shopping carts for

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different people (self, children, etcetera) and recommendations are made based on current shopping cart contents or past shopping cart purchases/selections, but are specific to a particular designated shopping cart).

 the determining of the offer is based upon a past purchase transactions and the presented offer is for a future purchase by the user (see at least column 6, line 33-37, uses items that were purchased as basis for offers),

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the capacity to differentiate between purchase histories and item selections for various parties within one user's account (the invention of Garrett) with the automated generation of product promotions/recommendations based on shopping cart content and previous purchases (the invention of Jacobi, also taught by Song) as well as with the inference determination feature of Song since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

Claims 23-25:

The combination Garrett/Jacobi/Song discloses the limitations as shown in the rejections above. Further, Song, as shown, discloses the following limitations:

said determining whether the computerized transaction is associated with the
user or whether the computerized transaction is associated with the user on
behalf of the third party/said distinguishing is made by judging if a "ship to"
party matches the user (see at least column 5, lines 1-3 and 10-12, the
system may infer that an item is being purchased as a gift by for example
recognizing that the shipping address for the item is different from the billing
address).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the inference-determining feature of the Song

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invention with Garrett's online shopping tools because both inventions seek to assist users in making online purchases, the Song inference feature only requires input data (shipping and billing addresses) which the Garrett invention also requires, both inventions seek to compartmentalize purchase histories by recipient and since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

 Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garrett (US 6,473,738 B1) in view of Jacobi et al. (US 7,113,917 B2).

Claim 10:

Garrett, as shown, discloses the following limitations:

- initiating a computerized transaction with the user by the merchant for a subject using the computerized transaction system (see at least column 6, line 16-20, log-on).
- receiving, by the computerized transaction system, from the user an
 indication of whether the subject of the computerized transaction is intended
 for use by the user or by a third party (see at least column 3, lines 50-52, the
 customer indicates while shopping that an item is intended for a third party),
- distinguishing in the computerized database system, by the computerized transaction system without prompting the user, between the subject of computerized transactions by the user that is intended for use by the user and the subject of computerized transactions by the user that is intended for use by the third party (see at least figure 6, once the user indicates whom the item is intended for (see the above limitation) the server automatically distinguishes between the items and compiles separate purchase histories),
- establishing, by the computerized transaction system without requiring a
 user's request, the giftee profile based on said determining if the
 computerized transaction is associated with the user on behalf of the third

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party, wherein the giftee profile corresponds to the third party and is associated with a user profile corresponding to the user (see at least column 8, lines 48-56, profiles for the user and for the recipients are established; Examiner notes that the Garrett invention does not required the user to request a profile to be established, one is established automatically when a recipient is indicated for a particular purchase),

- aggregating the information associated with the transaction in the user profile
 corresponding to the user if the subject of the computerized transaction is
 determined to be associated with the user (see at least column 3, lines 5253, "saving the selection list;" see also at least figure 6, purchase history log
 for user and each recipient).
- aggregating the information associated with the transaction in the giftee profile corresponding to the third party if the subject of the computerized transaction is determined to be associated with the third party (see at least column 3, lines 52-53, "saving the selection list;" see also at least figure 6, purchase history log for user and each recipient),

Garrett does not specifically disclose the following additional limitations, but Jacobi, as shown, does:

- determining, by the computerized transaction system, an offer tailored to one
 or more of the user or to the third party based upon either the user profile
 corresponding to the user or the giftee profile corresponding to the third party
 (see at least column 6, lines 14-22 provides recommendations based on
 items in user's list),
- presenting, by the computerized transaction system, the offer to the user, wherein the offer consists of a special offer and a promotion (see at least column 4, lines 55-61, implementing a variety of recommendation services... generates "personal recommendations"; Examiner notes that "recommendations" plural in the reference indicates at least more than one

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recommendation; Examiner interprets the claim limitation to mean two offers of some kind; Examiner does not know of and Applicant's disclosure fails to teach any distinction between special offer, promotion or recommendation in the advertising art).

- the offer, if tailored for the third party, is based upon the giftee profile
 corresponding to the third party and is not based upon the user profile
 corresponding to the user (see at least column 6, lines 23-37, user
 designates shopping carts for different people (self, children, etcetera) and
 recommendations are made based on current shopping cart contents or past
 shopping cart purchases/selections, but are specific to a particular
 designated shopping cart).
- the offer, if tailored to the user, is based upon the user profile corresponding
 to the user and is not based upon the giftee profile corresponding to the third
 party (see at least column 6, lines 23-37, user designates shopping carts for
 different people (self, children, etcetera) and recommendations are made
 based on current shopping cart contents or past shopping cart
 purchases/selections, but are specific to a particular designated shopping
 cart),
- the determining of the offer is based upon a past purchase transactions and the presented offer is for a future purchase by the user (see at least column 6, line 33-37, uses items that were purchased as basis for offers),

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine capacity to differentiate between purchase histories and item selections for various parties within one user's account (the invention of Garrett) with the automated generation of product promotions/recommendations based on shopping cart content and previous purchases (the invention of Jacobi) since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely

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would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 14 January 2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that "the lists taught by Garrett are generated by the user's request, and are not established by the computerized transaction system without requiring the user's request as set forth in amended claim 1" and further that "it should be improper that Examiner noted that Garrett invention does not require the user to request a profile to be established" (see page 9 of Applicant's invention). Examiner is not persuaded by this argument. First, the claim does not disclose that lists are generated without input from the user, rather the claim is focused on the establishment of profiles without a user request. Examiner does not equate a list with a profile. The Garrett invention allows a user to specify a gift recipient and as the user shops the user may note which gift is for which recipient. The Garrett system automatically does the work of developing profiles for each giftee, the profiles record gifts selected for each giftee and separately gifts actually purchased for each giftee. The generation and storage of this data is not done at the request of the user as specified in the claim. Examiner does not interpret the claim to mean that the system automatically, without any input from the user, determines for whom items selected by the user are intended; rather, Examiner interprets the "without requiring a user's request" limitation in light of the specification. In at least ¶0020 of the specification Applicant describes that the user in fact does associate and item with a recipient by noting the name and address of the recipient. The system then stores the information about the item with that recipients profile or establishes a new one in that recipient's name. Further, consistent with the prior art disclosed in the Garrett reference, Applicant describes that the determination of the gift recipient is made "using a number of methods including an on-line prompt" (Specification ¶0020, line 9) and further Applicant notes that Applicant's invention addresses the need "to allow for customers and users to designate or otherwise establish distinctions within profiles to exclude information related to transactions conducted on behalf of third parties such as giftees..." (Specification ¶0016, lines

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28-29, 1-2). Accordingly Examiner does not interpret the claimed limitation of "establishing profiles" to mean designating recipients. Rather Examiner interprets the claimed limitation of establishing profiles consistent with Applicant's invention as disclosed and the Garrett prior art to mean that the system builds historical data about gifts selected, designated and/or purchased for recipients. Insofar as Applicant interprets "establishing the giftee profile" to mean designating a recipient without user input, this interpretation is inconsistent with Applicant's own disclosure.

- 10. Applicant further argues that Garrett does not disclose that the computerized transaction system aggregates the transaction information into the respective profile (see page 9 of Applicant's remarks). Examiner disagrees. As noted in the rejection above, as the user shops the user notes who is to receive the item, the system then aggregates selection information and purchase (if applicable) information into the respective profile. Examiner interprets the word "aggregate" to mean that disparate information (from different instances of online shopping for example) is organized into a single accessible resource.
- 11. Applicant argues that the Jacobi reference fails to disclose "that the offer consists of a special offer and a promotion" as currently amended (see page 10 of Applicant's remarks). As noted in the rejection. Examiner is not aware of a distinction in the art between a promotion and a special offer, and Applicant's original disclosure fails to define these terms such that a distinction would be apparent. Accordingly, Examiner interprets this limitation to mean that two offers of some kind are provided to the user. Examiner notes that the word "consist" is exclusive in scope and that the exclusive list notes two offers. Examiner disagrees with Applicant and finds that Jacobi does teach providing two offers as noted in the rejection. Jacobi specifically refers to the recommendations provided using the plural of the word recommendation indicating at least more than one, i.e. 2 offers. Applicant next argues that Jacobi "does not disclose that the presented offer is for a future purchase by the user" (see page 10 of Applicant's remarks). Applicant's misleading argument suggests that Jacobi presents the user only with information about previously purchased items. Examiner disagrees. The abstract of the Jacobi reference alone conveys the message that Jacobi uses previously purchased items as a basis for determining which recommendations to provide to the user. Jacobi does not endeavor to remind a user about

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previous purchases, but to encourage future purchases by identifying items that are related to previously purchased items, or items that others have purchased that also purchased items that the user previously purchased etcetera.

Conclusion

 THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

13. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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14 Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or concerning this

communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Nathan C

Uber whose telephone number is 571.270.3923. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:00pm EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are

unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached at 571,272,6724.

15. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be

obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system,

see http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at

866.217.9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to 571-273-8300.

17. Hand delivered responses should be brought to the United States Patent and Trademark

Office Customer Service Window:

Randolph Building

401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314.

/Nathan C Uber/ Examiner, Art Unit 3622 27 April 2010

/Arthur Duran/

16.

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3622